

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 00324 221210Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /074 W

-----221211 128683 /13

R 221032Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8288

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USMISSION USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 0324

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CT, KS, KN

SUBJECT: CAE-SOUTH KOREAN RELATIONS

REF: BANGUI 0248

1. ON LEARNING OF HIGH LEVEL NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION'S VISIT TO BANGUI (REFTEL), SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR PARK RUSHED BACK TO POST FROM CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE IN SEOUL. ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETURN HE WAS RECEIVED IN AUDIENCE BY EMPEROR BOKASSA. PARK STRESSED TO BOKASSA DANGERS OF ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH DPRK, KNOWN RECORD OF SUBERSION AGAINST FRIENDLY COUNTRIES; TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS AND LIQUOR IN SCANDANAVIA; GENERAL DIFFICULTIES IN NORTH KOREA ECONOMY. BOKASSA RESPONDED WITH APPRECIATION FOR THIS INFORMATION AND INDICATED HE WOULD KEEP IT IN MIND IN DEALING WITH NORTH KOREANS. BOKASSA DID NOT STATE SPECIFICALLY THAT DPRK WOULD OPEN EMBASSY IN BANGUI. HE ASSURED PARK OF HIS CONTINUED CLOSE FRIENDSHIP FOR SOUTH KOREA AND SAID THAT WHATEVER DECISIONS WERE TAKEN WITH REGARD TO DPRK WOULD NOT AFFECT RELATIONS WITH ROK.

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2. IN ORDER TO ASSURE CONTINUED POSITIVE APPROACH BY GOCAE PARK HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO INCREASE ROK AID. TWO OR THREE TECHNICIANS ARE SHORTLY TO BE SENT TO BANGUI TO HELP WITH SOYBEAN PRODUCTION AND TO STUDY FEASIBILITY OF AN OIL MILL BASED ON SOYA. IN ADDITION ROK WILL SHORTLY BE DELIVERING DOLS 50,000 GIFT OF

SECURITY VEHICLES FOR IMPERIAL CORTEGE (PEUGEOTS
MODIFIED WITH RADIOS AND OTHER SECURITY EQUIPMENT.)

3. OVER ALL PARK SEEMS REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC THAT
CLOSE AND AMICABLE RELATIONS CAN BE MAINTAINED EVEN IF
FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DPRK ARE ESTABLISHED.
WE ARE SOMEWHAT LESS SANGUINE AND ASSUME THAT IF GOCAE
ADOPTS A TWO-KOREA POLICY, WE WILL SEE SHIFT IN UN VOTING
PATTERN FROM PRO ROK TO ABSTENTION. WE ARE, HOWEVER,
STILL UNCLEAR HOW FAR BOKASSA INTENDS TO GO IN RELATIONS
WITH DPRK AND IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT HE WILL STOP
SHORT OF A FULL TWO-KOREA POLICY.
QUAINTON

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Message Attributes

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